

FEB 23 2006

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

Application Number

10/709,858

Filing Date

June 2, 2004

First Named Inventor

SUNOHARA, Masahiro, et al.

Group Art Unit

2823

Name of Examiner

Jarrett J. STARK

Attorney Docket No.

031287A

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office (April 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Preliminary Amendmentii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other _____**2. Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

02/24/2006 JADD01 00000016 10709858

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790.00 OP

a. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, and additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)ii. ☐ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☒ other: Any deficiency in payment or any overpayment of feesb. ☒ Check in the amount of \$790.00 is enclosed.

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Atty Docket No.

031287A

SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name **William L. Brooks**

Registration No. **34,129** (atty/agent)

Signature

Date **February 23, 2006**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature